

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT East German Lignite Fuel Situation in 1953

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1. [redacted] the production plan for crude lignite and lignite briquettes, [redacted] will be underfulfilled by the following amounts:

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Crude lignite	about 5,000,000 metric tons
Dry coal	about 600,000 metric tons
Lignite briquettes	about 1,450,000 metric tons
Lignite coke from low-temperature carbonization	about 100,000 metric tons
Mineral coal	about 150,000 metric tons

2. SAG plants will probably fall 60,000 metric tons short of their briquette production plan. They are not in a position to meet their actual requirements at the Kombinat Espenhain from own production. It is, therefore, necessary to prepare at least 6,800,000 metric tons of briquettes in 1953 instead of 6,500,000 metric tons, as planned formerly. The 300,000 metric tons of briquettes increase nonfulfillment to 1,750,000 metric tons; this means that 1,750,000 metric tons of briquettes will not be available for distribution in 1953. Deliveries for 1953 for industry and for export will, therefore, have to be reduced by this amount. Material balances for crude coal and lignite briquettes were, therefore, revised, and the following plan was established:

- a. The State Committee for Material Procurement operates on the basis that all technical ministries are obliged to fulfill their production plans. Therefore, production figures were not changed; the probable nonfulfillment was instead transferred to the operational reserve. This was also done in the case of mineral coal imports which were not assured through contracts.
- b. In accordance with a decree of the Praesidium of the Council of Ministers dated 18 May 1953 the amounts thus far received in the allocations for trade and procurement were broken down (ausgegliedert) and assigned to the individual industrial ministries. According

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to figures valid in early August 1953 requirements (Deputatenspruch) amounted to 770,000 metric tons.

- c. The schedule for supplying East German industry was changed so that larger amounts are to be delivered during the fourth quarter of 1953. Thus about 160,000 metric tons of crude coal and 80,000 metric tons of briquettes less than originally planned for the third quarter of 1953 will be delivered to the following government ministries:

State Secretariat for Power

Ministry for Mining and Smelting

Ministry for Heavy Machine Construction

Ministry for the Construction of Agricultural Machinery and Transportation Media

Ministry for General Machine Construction

Ministry for Light Industry

Ministry for the Foodstuffs Industry

Ministry for Construction

State Secretariat for Chemistry

- d. Up until 30 September 1953, the civilian population will receive 3,200,000 metric tons of crude coal (80 percent of the annual allocation) and 4,143,000 metric tons of briquettes (82.6 percent of the annual allocation). In 1952, 2,900,000 metric tons of crude coal and 4,300,000 metric tons of briquettes were distributed to the civilian population. Local economy will receive 5,294,000 metric tons of crude coal (79 percent of the annual allocation) and 4,023,000 metric tons of briquettes (74.2 percent of the annual allocation) by 30 September 1953.
- e. Under present conditions, procurement will only be possible by using exports, which during the third quarter of 1953, amount to only 400,000 metric tons of briquettes, as opposed to the 817,000 metric tons included in the plan of 18 May 1953.

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